

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 CG-00 L-03 AF-10 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12
NEA-10 IO-13 ACDA-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 INT-05
FEAE-00 CEQ-01 NSF-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00
OIC-02 DOTE-00 ISO-00 /094 W
-----201900Z 107372 /43

O R 201546Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4159
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 08402

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: XV, TGEN, UK
SUBJECT: ANTARCTIC TREATY: 9TH CONSULTATIVE MEETING:
SEVENTH MONTHLY PREPARATORY MEETING

REF: (A) STATE 112921; (B) LONDON 7239; (C) LONDON 5916

SUMMARY. SECOND EXTENDED PREPARATORY FOLLOWING JULY 25
AD HOC WAS AGREED TO AT 7TH MONTHLY. GUIDELINES FOR
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GROUP OF EXPERTS MEETING WERE ALSO AGREED TO WITH SEVERAL
TREATY MEMBERS INSISTING THAT THEY ONLY FORMED BASIS FOR
DISCUSSION AND COULD BE ALTERED BY THE CONSULTATIVE
MEETING. ARGENTINA AND SOUTH AFRICA INTRODUCED SUGGESTED
REVISIONS OF INFORMAL BRITISH DRAFT PROPOSAL OF APRIL 28
ON PROCEDURES FOR ADMISSION OF NEW CONSULTATIVE PARTIES.
TEXT OF EACH FOLLOW SEPTTEL. IT WAS GENERALLY AGREED THAT

TWO AND POSSIBLY THREE "MONTHLY"-TYPE MEETINGS WOULD HAVE TO BE HELD PRIOR TO AD HOC CONSULTATIVE. END SUMMARY.

1. SEVENTH MONTHLY PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE NINTH CONSULTATIVE MEETING OF THE ANTARCTIC TREATY, CHAIRED BY JOHN HEAP, HEAD. POLAR REGIONS SECTION, FCO, WAS HELD MAY 19. AGENDA ITEM I PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR NINTH CONSULTATIVE MEETING REMAINED UNCHANGED. IT WAS POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT ITEM I(8), "ACTIVITIES IN THE ANTARCTICA OF STATES THAT ARE NOT CONTRACTING PARTIES," HAD BEEN OVERLOOKED AT LAST MONTHLY. THERE WAS NO SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEM I(1).

2. AGENDA ITEM I(2): USSR REP KOTLIAR MADE

STATEMENT ON SECOND

EXTENDED PREPARATORY. HE SAID MOSCOW HAS DECIDED NOT TO OPPOSE SUCH A MEETING IF OTHER TREATY MEMBERS WISH TO PARTICIPATE. SOUTH AFRICAN REP ALSO STATED HIS GOVERNMENT DOES NOT OPPOSE BUT THAT IT IS CONCERNED OVER COST. FRENCH REP FOLLOWED SAME LINE AND ADDED THAT HE WOULD HOPE MEETING NOT LAST MORE THAN TWO DAYS (I.E., TOTAL MEETING OF THREE DAYS WITH AD HOC CONSULTATIVE INCLUDED). HEAP INTERVENED TO SAY THAT BELGIUM, U.S., NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIA HAVE ALREADY AGREED TO THE MEETING AND REQUESTED THAT OTHER TREATY MEMBERS INDICATE THEIR VIEWS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HE HAS ALREADY RESERVED MEETING SPACE AT "CHURCH HOUSE" FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 25. CHILEAN REP SAID HE WILL ATTEND BUT THAT HE WANTED IT MADE CLEAR THAT MEETING WILL CONCENTRATE ON MARINE LIVING RESOURCES QUESTION. HEAP SAID IT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT GROUP

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SHARES THIS VIEW. HEAP SAID IF THERE ARE NO OBJECTIONS, HE WILL SEND AN INVITATION TO ALL MEMBERS CONTAINING A TWO-ITEM AGENDA -- (1) MARINE LIVING RESOURCES QUESTION, AND (2) ANY OTHER BUSINESS. HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT FULL AGENDA COULD BE RAISED UNDER LATTER POINT.

3. COMMENT. HEAP WAS RATHER PLEASED WITH HIMSELF AT BEING ABLE TO SLIP THIS FORMAT THROUGH WITHOUT ANYONE DEMANDING THAT FULL AGENDA FOR NINTH CONSULTATIVE BE FORMALLY PLACED BEFORE SECOND EXTENDED PREPARATORY. END COMMENT.

4. AGENDA ITEM I(3): EXPERTS MEETING GUIDELINES. U.S. REP INFORMED HEAP PRIOR TO MONTHLY THAT U.S. ACCEPTED GUIDELINES FOR GROUP OF EXPERTS MEETING AS OUTLINED ANT/EPM-12 (PARAS 5, 6 & 7). HEAP THUS INFORMED MEETING THAT U.S., BELGIUM AND NORWAY HAD ALREADY ACCEPTED GUIDELINES AND ASKED FOR FURTHER COMMENTS. SOUTH AFRICAN REP SAID THAT WHILE HE HAS NOT RECEIVED FORMAL INSTRUC-

TIONS, GROUP CAN ASSUME SAG ACCEPTS. ARGENTINE REP SAID
HIS GOVERNMENT AGREES TO GUIDELINES ON UNDERSTANDING THAT
EXPERTS SHOULD ACT CONCURRENTLY WITH NINTH CONSULTATIVE
AND PASS THEIR CONCLUSIONS ON TO THE PRINCIPAL MEETING.
HE STRESSED THAT GUIDELINES ARE SIMPLY THAT, AND IF
NINTH CONSULTATIVE WISHES TO EXPAND OR CONTRACT THEM,

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THEY MAY DO SO. USSR AND OTHER REPS CONCURRED IN THIS
VIEW. HEAP SOUNDED SLIGHT NOTE OF CAUTION, HOWEVER, BY
SAYING THAT WHILE HE AGREED THERE MUST BE SOME FLEXIBIL-
ITY, IT MIGHT BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE IF THIS ARGUMENT IS
CARRIED TOO FAR AND CONTENT OF EXPERTS MEETING CHANGED AT
LAST MINUTE. THIS COULD RESULT IN MANY COUNTRIES HAVING

WRONG EXPERTS PRESENT. AUSTRALIAN REP REITERATED POINT HE RAISED LAST MEETING ON NEED FOR EXPERTS TO CONSIDER MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS OF ISSUES RAISED IN GUIDELINES. CONFIDENTIAL

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HE SAID IT IS HIS GOVERNMENT'S VIEW THAT REQUIREMENT OF GROUP OF EXPERTS "TO DISCUSS" VARIOUS TOPICS MEANS "EXPERTS SHOULD EXAMINE AND REPORT ON" THOSE SUBJECTS. THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT THIS WAS THE CASE.

5. JAPANESE REP INTERVENED UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO SUGGEST THAT AN ADDITIONAL ARTICLE BE ADDED IN GUIDELINES TO END OF PARA 6. THIS WAS EVENTUALLY TRANSLATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: "(I) TECHNIQUES TO ACCESS THE PRESENT STATE OF ANTARCTIC ENVIRONMENT AND TO MONITOR CHANGES WHICH MAY OCCUR AS A RESULT OF FUTURE MINERAL EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION IF SUCH ACTIVITIES WERE TO OCCUR." IT WAS THEN AGREED THAT HEAP WOULD PREPARE ANOTHER GUIDELINES PAPER REFLECTING THE VIEWS OF THIS MEETING, INCLUDING THE JAPANESE PROPOSAL. IT WILL BE PRESENTED AS A DRAFT FROM THE BRITISH DELEGATION TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NINTH CONSULTATIVE MEETING.

6. AGENDA ITEM I(4): HEAP SAID THAT ALL GOVERNMENTS SHOULD NOW HAVE SCAR PAPER ON COOPERATION IN TRANSPORT. UK INTENDS TO TABLE IT FOR DISCUSSION AT NINTH CONSULTATIVE. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEM I(5) -- MAN'S IMPACT ON THE ANTARCTIC ENVIRONMENT.

7. AGENDA ITEM I(6): USSR REP SAID HE WILL AGAIN REMIND MOSCOW OF THEIR PROMISE TO PROVIDE SHORT PAPER ON "IMPROVED PROCEDURES FOR GATHERING AND DISTRIBUTING HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION."

8. AGENDA ITEM I(7): ARGENTINE REP BLANCOS INTRODUCED WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS WORKING PAPERS DEALING WITH (A) POLISH ACCESSION, AND (B) GENERAL PROCEDURES FOR DEALING WITH APPLICATIONS FOR CONSULTATIVE STATUS. HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE IDEA OF A "RECOMMENDATION" HAD BEEN COMPLETELY ABANDONED AND POINTED OUT THAT THESE WERE PROPOSALS FOR A "DECISION." HE STRESSED THAT THE PAPERS

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REPRESENTED AN ATTEMPT TO FIND A MORE "SOLEMN OR FORMAL" WAY TO DEAL WITH ACCESSION. FOLLOWING CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION OF ARGENTINE PROPOSALS, SOUTH AFRICAN REP ALSO

TABLED A DRAFT REVISION OF ORIGINAL UNOFFICIAL BRITISH DRAFT OF APRIL 28. TEXTS OF ARGENTINE AND SOUTH AFRICAN DRAFTS AND REPORT ON DISCUSSION GENERATED BY THEM FOLLOW IN SEPTELS.

9. DURING DISCUSSION OF THESE PROPOSALS, IT WAS AGREED THAT AS MANY AS THREE MORE "MONTHLY"-TYPE MEETINGS MAY BE NEEDED TO INSURE THAT CONSENSUS HAS BEEN REACHED ON PROCEDURE PRIOR TO JULY 25 AD HOC CONSULTATIVE MEETING. AT SAME TIME HEAP SUGGESTED "BRIDLING ANY DESIRE" TO TABLE ADDITIONAL PAPERS. IT WAS AGREED THAT NEXT MEETING WOULD BE HELD AT 1500 ON THURSDAY, JUNE 16 AND THAT TWO ADDITIONAL MEETINGS MAY POSSIBLY BE NEEDED.

10. FURTHER ON AGENDA ITEM I(7): SOUTH AFRICAN REP SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT REQUEST MADE BY CHILEAN REP AT LAST MONTHLY FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POLISH SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES IN ANTARCTICA. HE EXPRESSED HIS GOVERNMENT'S HOPE THAT UK WILL OBTAIN AND CIRCULATE THIS INFORMATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HEAP SAID HE HAS REMINDED POLISH GOVERNMENT OF TREATY MEMBERS' CONCERN AND HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT A NOTE ON THIS SUBJECT IS BEING PREPARED.

11. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEM I(8).

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Message Attributes

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